



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE

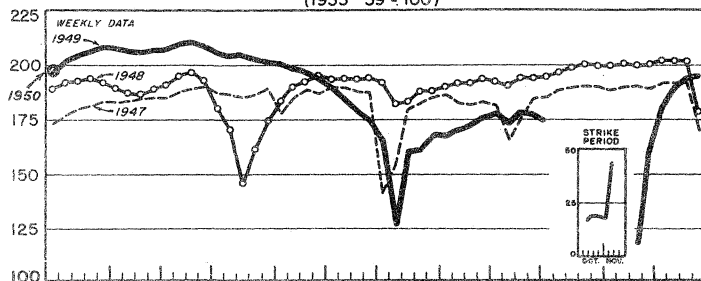


AVAILABLE ONLY WITH SUBSCRIPTION TO SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

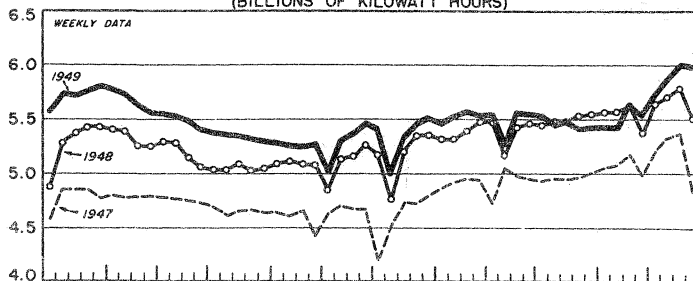
JANUARY 6, 1950

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

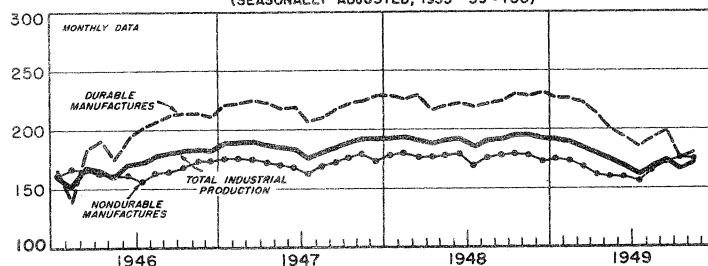
STEEL INGOT PRODUCTION
(1935-39 = 100)



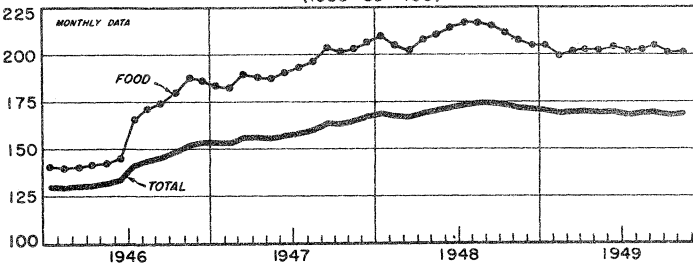
ELECTRIC POWER PRODUCTION BY UTILITIES
(BILLIONS OF KILOWATT HOURS)



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, 1935-39 = 100)



CONSUMERS' PRICES
(1935-39 = 100)



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1948	1949					
	Dec. 25	Jan. 1	Dec. 3	Dec. 10	Dec. 17	Dec. 24	Dec. 31
Commodity prices, wholesale:							
All commodities.....1926=100..	162.0	162.0	151.4	151.0	151.1	151.1	151.1
Farm products.....do.....	177.5	178.0	155.3	154.0	154.2	155.0	155.1
Food.....do.....	170.4	170.3	157.9	156.6	156.5	155.6	155.6
All other.....do.....	152.7	152.4	145.1	145.1	145.3	145.4	145.4
28 commodities 2/.....August 1939=100..	296.0	296.2	249.9	247.9	246.8	247.8	247.7
Cotton middling, 15/16", 10 markets 3/.....dol. per lb..	.321	.323	.299	.301	.302	.305	.307
Wheat, No. 2, Hard Winter(Kansas City).....dol. per bu..	2.27	2.27	2.25	2.23	2.22	2.21	2.21
Department store sales.....1935-39=100..	473	204	449	542	582	539	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,679	1,935	2,516	2,437	.....	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,246	1,425	2,288	2,211	.....	.....	.....
Veterans' programs.....do.....	378	445	65	63	.....	.....	.....
Finance:							
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	28,538	28,314	27,587	27,707	27,734	27,842	.....
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do.....	24,221	24,113	18,267	18,628	18,731	19,508	19,379
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	19,899	20,238	16,038	16,291	16,433	16,337	16,299
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	662	1,058	697	920	924	849	857
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:							
Bank debits, total.....mil. of dol..	25,001	22,434	18,459	22,167	22,946	26,855	.....
New York City.....do.....	10,069	9,268	7,284	9,452	10,105	11,965	7,772
Deposits, demand, adjusted.....do.....	47,928	47,794	47,648	47,724	48,652	48,236	.....
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	63,141	62,751	66,839	66,938	67,574	67,389	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	33,455	32,987	37,248	37,153	37,409	37,632	.....
Commercial, industrial and agr. loans, gross.....do.....	15,614	15,561	13,775	13,807	13,882	13,866	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	116	128	221	191	161	196	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.08	3.07	2.89	2.88	2.87	2.85	.....
Stock prices, 416 stocks (Standard and Poor's).....1935-39=100..	119.2	120.1	128.6	131.5	133.3	132.3	133.5
Industrials, 365 stocks.....do.....	125.4	126.4	135.7	138.9	141.1	140.1	141.2
Production:							
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,956	1,770	1,542	1,542	1,453	1,507	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw-hr..	5,508	5,562	5,743	5,881	5,997	5,994	.....
Motor vehicles (Wards).....number..	89,686	79,377	68,385	46,667	79,692	110,594	105,050
Petroleum, crude 3/.....thous. of bbl..	5,641	5,611	5,045	4,919	4,940	4,935	.....
Steel 4/.....1935-39=100..	178.9	196.5	181.1	189.4	194.3	195.2	192.3
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	609	585	694	669	640	623	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	298	294	337	327	318	303	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Thursday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ Week ending January 7, 1945.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1949 Statistical Supplement	1948		1949			
	October	November	August	September	October	November
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial production (Federal Reserve):						
Unadjusted, combined index.....1935-39=100..	199	195	173	178	169	
Manufactures.....do....	205	202	180	188	r179	p172
Durable manufactures.....do....	232	229	194	200	r177	p178
Iron and steel.....do....	221	224	178	179	r103	p180
Lumber and products.....do....	154	142	134	141	r139	p142
Furniture.....do....	170	169	148	159	r166	p138
Lumber.....do....	145	128	126	132	r125	p161
Machinery.....do....	277	276	215	224	r226	p126
Nonferrous metals and products.....do....	192	188	141	157	r164	p218
Smelting and refining.....do....	191	176	174	175	r167	p161
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	220	208	191	192	r192	p168
Clay products.....do....	180	178	150	151	r154	p188
Transportation equipment.....do....	243	238	244	252	r238	p153
Automobiles (including parts).....do....	209	203	225	232	r216	p206
Non-durable manufactures.....do....	183	179	r170	178	r181	p174
Chemical products.....do....	258	258	r226	237	r244	p177
Industrial chemicals.....do....	446	449	388	404	r414	p246
Leather and products.....do....	114	104	110	114	r109	p419
Leather tanning.....do....	109	103	90	98		
Shoes.....do....	117	104	123	125	116	
Manufactured food products.....do....	173	161	r189	188	178	
Meat packing.....do....	142	173	134	145	155	
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do....	197	129	r285	262	191	
Printing and publishing.....do....	167	163	143	r159	169	
Rubber products.....do....	205	203	r178	176	r192	
Textiles and products.....do....	167	164	140	154	169	
Cotton consumption.....do....	129	122	111	127	134	
Rayon deliveries.....do....	319	322	299	293	r318	
Wool textiles.....do....	168	162	134	139	161	
Minerals.....do....	161	160	134	123	r112	
Fuels.....do....	166	167	134	122	r121	
Anthracite.....do....	118	116	82	50	118	
Bituminous coal.....do....	152	155	108	60	31	
Crude petroleum.....do....	176	177	149	154	r157	
Metals.....do....	132	114	135	127	r61	
Adjusted, combined index 1/.....do....	195	195	170	174	166	
Manufactures.....do....	202	201	177	184	r176	
Durable manufactures.....do....	231	229	192	199	r175	
Lumber and products.....do....	147	145	126	133	r133	
Lumber.....do....	135	133	115	119	r116	
Nonferrous metals.....do....	192	187	141	157	r164	
Smelting and refining.....do....	191	175	174	175	r167	
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	210	203	183	184	r183	
Clay products.....do....	171	172	146	r145	r146	
Non-durable manufactures.....do....	179	178	165	172	177	
Chemical products.....do....	255	257	r229	236	r240	
Leather and products.....do....	113	102	r110	115	108	
Leather tanning.....do....	108	100	r91	100	97	
Manufactured food products.....do....	161	159	r166	166	166	
Meat packing.....do....	141	155	153	158	155	
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do....	152	140	150	134	r148	
Printing and publishing.....do....	164	156	151	159	165	
Minerals.....do....	158	161	129	119	r112	
Metals.....do....	113	121	102	98	r57	
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumers' price index, all items.....1935-39=100..	173.6	172.2	168.8	169.6	168.5	168.6
Apparel.....do....	201.6	201.4	187.4	187.2	186.8	186.3
Food.....do....	211.5	207.5	202.6	204.2	200.6	200.8
Cereals and bakery products.....do....	170.0	169.9	169.4	169.7	169.1	169.2
Dairy products.....do....	203.0	199.5	184.9	185.3	186.7	186.4
Fruits and vegetables.....do....	193.5	189.4	201.9	199.8	194.5	202.0
Metals, poultry, and fish.....do....	256.1	246.7	239.5	243.6	235.1	229.1
Fuel, electricity, and refrigeration.....do....	137.8	137.9	135.8	137.0	138.4	139.1
Gas and electricity.....do....	95.4	95.4	97.1	97.1	97.0	97.0
Other fuels.....do....	191.4	191.6	183.1	185.9	188.3	190.0
Housefurnishings.....do....	198.8	198.7	184.8	185.6	185.2	185.4
Rent.....do....	118.7	118.8	120.8	121.2	121.5	122.0
Miscellaneous.....do....	153.7	153.9	154.8	155.2	155.2	154.9
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Value of contracts awarded (Federal Reserve indexes):						
Total, unadjusted.....1923-25=100..	175	169	238	247	r251	242
Residential, unadjusted.....do....	152	148	226	254	r260	253
Total, adjusted.....do....	184	189	229	246	r263	268
Residential, adjusted.....do....	157	154	228	254	r269	263
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Alcohol, denatured:						
Production.....thous. of wine gal..	15,962	16,013	12,313	13,947	14,845	14,612
Consumption (withdrawals).....do....	15,440	16,175	12,444	15,341	15,299	15,574
Stocks.....do....	1,977	1,817	8,126	6,732	6,313	5,358

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

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Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1949 Statistical Supplement	1948		1949			
	October	November	August	September	October	November
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS - Continued						
Alcohol, ethyl:						
Production.....thous. of proof gal..	29,820	33,603	26,660	22,770	22,679	23,181
Stocks, total.....do....	29,592	31,999	56,588	52,426	43,133	37,192
In industrial alcohol bonded warehouses.....do....	28,738	31,496	53,527	50,652	41,919	36,223
In denaturing plants.....do....	853	503	3,061	1,775	1,214	969
Withdrawn for denaturing.....do....	30,075	29,134	25,176	24,362	27,117	26,838
Withdrawn tax-paid.....do....	4,702	5,114	3,572	3,672	3,936	4,289
Oils, fats, and byproducts:						
Animal fats:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	221,253	298,192	1/264,394	1/248,888	1/288,318	1/474,420
Stocks, end of month.....do....	288,614	310,920	1/292,421	1/265,758	1/240,962	1/251,195
Greases:						
Production.....do....	47,344	50,619	1/46,753	1/44,706	1/48,110	1/54,861
Stocks, end of month.....do....	119,351	112,915	1/124,518	1/117,852	1/116,477	1/112,412
Fish oils:						
Production.....do....	11,344	6,529	18,362	21,962	24,908	8,438
Stocks, end of month.....do....	97,756	115,792	79,062	92,245	102,849	94,776
Vegetable oils:						
Production, crude.....do....	497,661	532,199	1/361,323	1/464,434	1/600,546	1/599,665
Stocks, end of month:						
Crude.....do....	528,176	613,948	1/718,223	1/775,986	1/856,337	1/963,122
Refined.....do....	152,170	211,379	1/188,297	1/171,485	1/231,248	1/290,724
Cottonseed oil, refined:						
Production.....do....	178,087	177,824	71,976	113,309	178,666	188,938
Stocks, end of month.....do....	83,053	120,774	72,590	69,708	125,176	174,981
Linseed oil:						
Production.....do....	60,973	58,111	1/77,071	1/72,923	1/67,803	1/62,856
Stocks, end of month.....do....	190,988	210,894	1/407,230	1/421,115	1/433,921	1/462,934
Soybean oil:						
Production:						
Crude.....do....	136,864	154,757	136,015	120,756	172,491	165,473
Refined.....do....	91,632	116,910	135,106	127,703	125,902	133,442
Stocks, end of month:						
Crude.....do....	62,351	77,432	71,925	56,223	67,314	69,405
Refined.....do....	48,725	69,216	76,384	56,790	55,410	57,976
WOODSTUFFS						
Fermented malt liquors:						
Production.....thous. of bbl..	6,693	6,174	9,182	7,392	6,122	5,774
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do....	6,366	6,667	8,901	7,285	6,438	6,095
Stocks, end of month.....do....	9,064	8,278	10,033	9,836	9,252	8,686
Distilled spirits:						
Production.....thous. of tax gal..	34,815	37,253	11,581	16,704	26,093	19,770
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do....	11,456	12,154	8,072	9,471	11,438	12,070
Stocks, end of month.....do....	615,401	621,677	675,217	673,701	671,309	669,884
Whisky:						
Production.....do....	12,212	14,036	5,959	8,703	9,246	9,705
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do....	6,091	6,602	4,383	5,311	6,101	6,965
Stocks, end of month.....do....	542,263	547,534	603,231	604,768	606,210	606,015
Rectified distilled spirits, prod., total, thous. of proof gal..	13,741	14,456	9,043	10,228	12,400	12,601
Whisky.....do....	12,752	13,378	7,661	9,250	11,247	11,473
Dairy products, production:						
Butter, creamery (factory).....thous. of lb..	91,858	80,306	128,440	113,770	102,800	90,740
Cheese, total (factory).....do....	81,203	67,072	108,410	94,150	82,155	72,100
Condensed milk (sweetened):						
Bulk goods.....do....	13,300	11,085	26,130	22,320	16,300	11,550
Case goods.....do....	8,329	7,847	8,800	5,750	4,675	3,200
Evaporated milk (unsweetened), case goods.....do....	221,710	151,414	273,650	212,750	167,750	134,000
Dry milk:						
Dry whole milk.....do....	11,773	7,962	10,890	10,725	9,150	7,410
Nonfat dry milk solids (human food).....do....	38,773	37,173	76,750	63,050	54,150	49,000
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Shoes and slippers, production, total.....thous. of pairs..	39,050	34,691	44,969	41,538	38,160	.....
Shoes, sandals, and play shoes, exc. athletic, total.....do....	33,048	28,618	38,926	34,858	31,186	.....
Men's.....do....	8,625	7,813	8,702	8,409	8,246	.....
Youth's and boys'.....do....	1,635	1,438	1,797	1,710	1,607	.....
Women's.....do....	15,812	12,873	20,791	18,052	14,783	.....
Misses' and children's.....do....	4,052	3,802	4,782	4,156	3,941	.....
Infant's and babies'.....do....	2,924	2,692	2,654	2,531	2,609	.....
Slippers for housewearer.....do....	5,368	5,477	5,476	6,067	6,374	.....
Athletic.....do....	339	313	306	299	303	.....
Other footwear.....do....	295	283	261	314	297	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	5,520	5,399	4,477	4,350	612	2,722
Lead, refined:						
Production, total.....short tons..	46,787	47,029	39,362	35,924	47,210	49,223
Primary.....do....	43,857	44,534	37,754	34,928	46,246	48,500
Shipments.....do....	39,375	40,289	36,059	29,566	23,738	37,779
Stocks, end of month.....do....	27,553	34,192	76,782	61,433	66,005	65,954
Machine tools, shipments.....1945-47=100..	80.4	76.2	67.3	67.6	62.3	68.0

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1949 Statistical Supplement	1948		1949			
	October	November	August	September	October	November
METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Continued						
Steel products, net shipments:						
Total.....thous. of short tons..	5,952	5,732	4,918	4,276	935	.....
Bars, hot rolled - Carbon and alloy.....do....	713	698	465	524	89	.....
Reinforcing.....do....	143	119	156	162	31	.....
Semimanufactures.....do....	286	285	136	125	18	.....
Pipe and tubes.....do....	638	614	648	655	121	.....
Plates.....do....	641	629	481	467	51	.....
Rails.....do....	190	190	196	162	1	.....
Sheets.....do....	1,463	1,418	1,377	1,497	316	.....
Strip - Cold rolled.....do....	161	165	106	122	64	.....
Hot rolled.....do....	154	146	153	179	38	.....
Structural shapes, heavy.....do....	392	368	300	309	8	.....
Tin plate and terneplate.....do....	350	315	322	394	81	.....
Wire and wire products.....do....	436	417	334	386	71	.....
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Paper, excluding building paper, newsprint, and paperboard (American Paper and Pulp Association):						
Orders, new.....short tons..	741,601	690,493	721,374	r768,425	r804,607	775,000
Production.....do....	781,787	750,575	684,243	r699,796	r765,807	781,000
Shipments.....do....	781,011	732,656	680,005	r706,642	r768,412	777,000
Stocks, end of month.....do....	271,147	277,403	332,135	r326,385	r323,560	327,475
Fine paper:						
Orders, new.....do....	80,313	73,088	87,445	r87,250	r99,635	93,000
Production.....do....	93,224	85,660	87,847	r86,983	r92,817	94,000
Shipments.....do....	92,538	80,611	87,908	r87,870	r95,890	93,000
Stocks, end of month.....do....	70,394	77,446	88,440	r88,160	r85,085	86,000
Printing paper:						
Orders, new.....do....	251,023	232,172	263,150	r272,762	r276,605	262,000
Production.....do....	269,603	261,219	248,153	r251,456	r267,120	269,000
Shipments.....do....	268,295	257,205	243,043	r251,878	r264,450	264,000
Stocks, end of month.....do....	85,012	86,887	98,000	r98,000	r101,000	106,000
Coarse paper:						
Orders, new.....do....	269,424	253,558	248,105	r280,775	r288,375	280,000
Production.....do....	276,063	268,132	225,676	r236,977	r267,030	277,000
Shipments.....do....	277,956	261,379	226,795	r242,747	r268,585	279,000
Stocks, end of month.....do....	65,679	64,492	92,980	r87,210	r85,650	83,650
RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS						
Natural rubber:						
Consumption.....long tons..	49,617	51,632	45,307	43,978	r51,243	51,785
Stocks, end of month.....do....	118,187	113,251	99,850	100,618	r90,733	98,246
Synthetic rubber:						
Production.....do....	41,419	40,779	33,885	30,878	28,015	28,619
Consumption.....do....	38,367	37,690	34,419	32,443	33,687	31,289
Stocks, end of month.....do....	102,842	107,297	111,333	110,848	103,955	101,590
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS						
Portland cement:						
Production.....thous. of bbl..	19,349	18,435	18,715	r19,181	19,057	18,040
Shipments.....do....	20,324	18,110	23,633	r22,763	21,277	17,269
Stocks, finished, end of month.....do....	6,094	6,399	r14,381	10,797	r8,569	9,340
Stocks, clinker, end of month.....do....	2,824	2,781	r5,798	4,461	r3,610	3,337
Glass containers:						
Production.....thous. of gross..	9,075	7,214	8,662	7,550	8,283	7,375
Shipments.....do....	8,170	6,469	8,933	7,981	7,737	6,963
Stocks, end of month.....do....	7,776	8,306	8,906	8,318	8,602	8,681
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Wool: 1/						
Consumption (scoured basis):						
Apparel class.....thous. of lb..	33,988	29,705	29,244	r36,160	33,444	.....
Carpet class.....do....	18,092	16,634	10,588	r13,350	13,032	.....
Machinery activity (weekly average):						
Looms:						
Woolen and worsted:						
File and Jacquard.....thous. of active hours..	89	78	83	79	90	.....
Broad.....do....	2,224	2,143	1,960	r1,926	2,282	.....
Narrow.....do....	30	29	30	26	37	.....
Carpet and rug:						
Broad.....do....	173	166	124	125	138	.....
Narrow.....do....	126	114	65	65	68	.....
Spinning spindles:						
Woolen.....do....	92,989	90,274	88,831	r82,778	92,012	.....
Worsted.....do....	101,900	92,615	81,906	r90,413	110,119	.....
Worsted combs.....do....	189	160	145	151	176	.....
Wool manufactures:						
Wool yarn, production, total.....thous. of lb..	61,714	57,611	56,096	r68,895	62,356	.....
Knitting.....do....	6,409	5,907	6,544	r8,630	7,624	.....
Weaving.....do....	38,256	35,709	38,416	r46,235	41,232	.....
Carpet and other.....do....	17,049	15,995	11,136	14,030	13,500	.....