

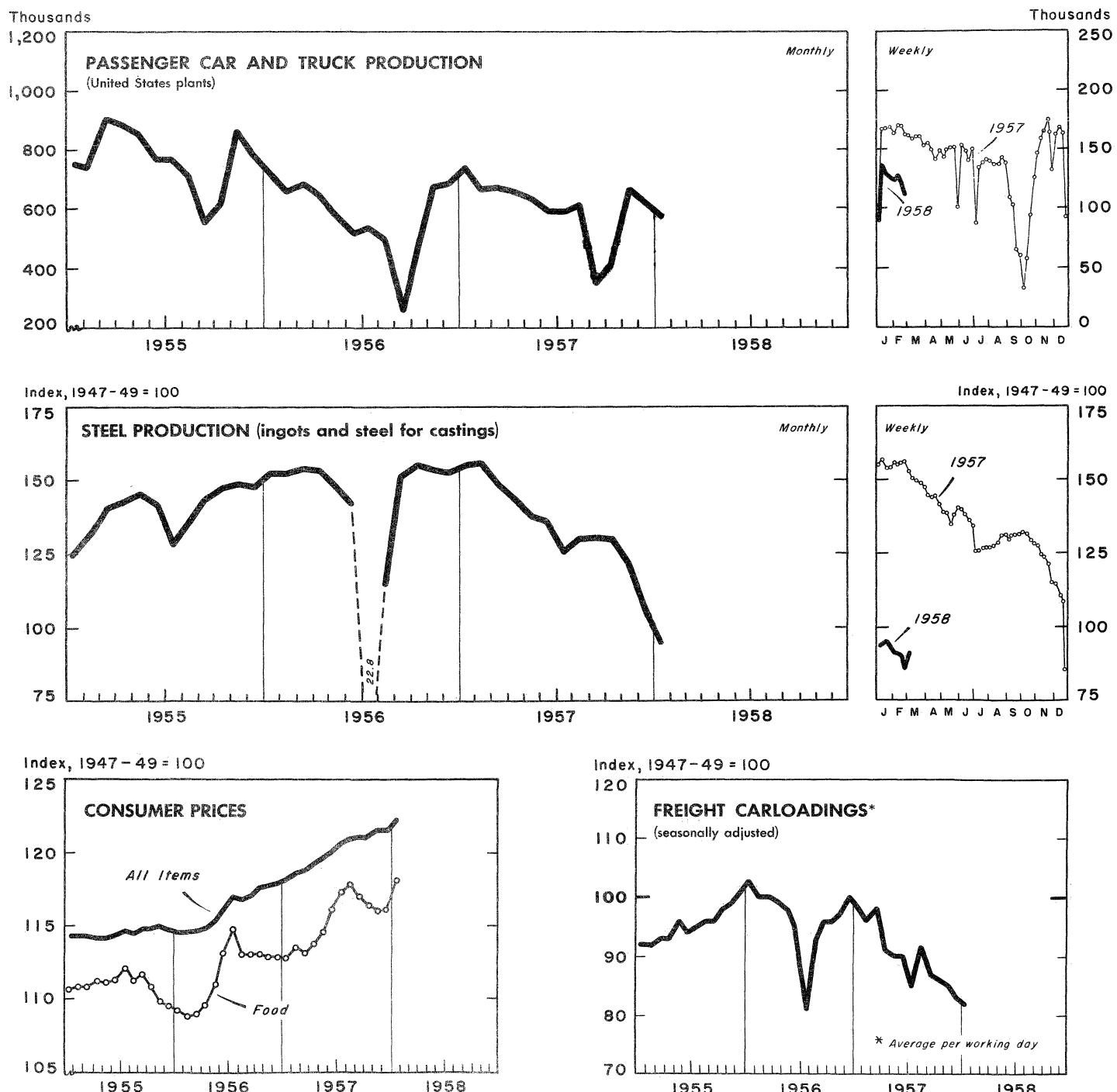
February 28, 1958

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

Available only with subscription to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, at \$4.00 annually, this Supplement provides selected weekly and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1957		1958			
	Feb. 16	Feb. 23	Feb. 1	Feb. 8	Feb. 15	Feb. 22
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*117.0	.....	118.6	118.8	119.1
Farm products.....do.....	.....	*88.8	.....	94.2	95.4	96.8
Foods, processed.....do.....	.....	*103.9	.....	108.4	108.9	109.5
All other.....do.....	.....	*125.5	.....	125.8	125.8	125.8
22 commodities 2/.....do.....	89.0	88.5	84.4	84.9	85.9	86.4
Department store sales.....do.....	102	100	92	93	96	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,875	1,823	3,130	3,172	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,737	1,679	2,896	2,982	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	317	300	326	342	319	317
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,641	30,605	30,625	30,579	30,675	30,642
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do..	24,997	24,764	24,632	24,397	24,543	24,830
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do.....	18,808	18,895	19,089	18,997	19,054	19,122
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do.....	543	586	507	410	520	625
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,423	56,214	56,134	55,880	55,548	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do.....	22,500	22,568	24,790	25,115	25,433	.....
Loans and investment (adjusted), total.....do.....	84,828	85,069	86,187	87,066	87,156	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	25,672	25,809	25,923	26,290	26,313	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do.....	30,257	30,347	30,638	30,434	30,330	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	8,782	8,766	8,744	8,732	8,738	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.99	3.98	4.00	4.01	4.01	4.00
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/.....1941-43=10..	43.04	43.63	41.88	42.19	40.93	41.15
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do.....	45.63	46.34	44.72	45.09	43.66	43.88
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,625	1,642	1,353	1,243	1,328	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,946	11,920	12,238	12,289	12,417	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	169,959	162,280	122,714	128,509	120,365	110,274
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	7,516	7,567	6,842	6,858	6,852	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,501	2,504	1,459	1,457	1,445	1,373
Percent of capacity.....	97.7	97.8	#54.1	#54.0	#53.5	#50.9
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	676	627	550	532	533	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	349	326	279	272	266	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning February 24, 1958: Production, 1,468 thous. short tons; operating rate, 54.4 percent. * Monthly index for February 1957. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1957 rates which are based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1956		1957			1958
	December	January	October	November	December	January
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Business incorporations:						
New incorporations (48 States).....number..	10,788	13,387	11,251	9,270	10,575	13,080
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....do.....	982	1,148	1,122	1,173	1,080	1,279
Commercial service.....do.....	83	71	89	93	88	78
Construction.....do.....	183	177	176	194	174	176
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	172	197	214	213	208	219
Retail trade.....do.....	472	612	544	559	514	676
Wholesale trade.....do.....	72	91	99	114	96	130
Liabilities (current), total.....thous. of dol..	50,279	54,060	47,428	52,899	45,325	64,442
Commercial service.....do.....	3,780	4,086	3,195	2,611	3,072	3,364
Construction.....do.....	8,149	10,672	7,994	13,420	5,713	9,868
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	21,785	16,105	11,601	18,061	14,985	24,917
Retail trade.....do.....	10,946	17,862	16,947	12,895	16,028	20,788
Wholesale trade.....do.....	5,619	5,335	7,691	5,912	5,527	5,505
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	118.0	118.2	121.1	121.6	121.6	1/122.3
Apparel.....do.....	107.0	106.4	107.7	107.9	107.6	106.9
Food.....do.....	112.9	112.8	116.4	116.0	116.1	118.2
Dairy products.....do.....	111.3	111.2	114.2	114.5	114.6	114.6
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	117.4	116.9	114.5	114.6	113.9	121.9
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	98.0	99.0	106.3	104.6	106.0	110.2
Housing.....do.....	123.5	123.8	126.6	126.8	127.0	127.1
Gas and electricity.....do.....	112.0	112.3	113.8	114.3	114.3	115.7
Housefurnishings.....do.....	104.1	104.0	104.8	104.5	104.9	104.2
Rent.....do.....	134.2	134.2	136.0	136.3	136.7	136.8
Medical care.....do.....	134.7	135.3	139.7	140.3	140.8	141.7
Personal care.....do.....	121.8	122.1	126.2	126.7	127.0	127.8
Reading and recreation.....do.....	109.3	109.9	113.4	114.4	114.6	116.6
Transportation.....do.....	133.1	135.6	135.8	140.0	138.9	138.7
Private.....do.....	123.3	123.8	125.4	129.7	128.6	128.4
Public.....do.....	174.1	174.9	181.6	182.8	182.4	182.4
Other goods and services.....do.....	123.3	123.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	127.0

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

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ITEM	1956	1957				1958
	December	January	October	November	December	January
COMMODITY PRICES - Continued						
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by--						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	86.0	85.5	84.9	84.7	r84.4	1/84.2
Consumer prices.....do....	84.7	84.6	82.6	82.2	82.2	1/81.8
FINANCE						
Agricultural loans and discounts outstanding of agencies supervised by the Farm Credit Adm.:						
Total.....mil. of dol..	2,971	3,003	3,354	3,329	3,339	3,363
Farm mortgage loans: Federal land banks.....do....	1,744	1,763	1,904	1,908	1,919	1,925
Loans to cooperatives.....do....	457	454	451	452	454	456
Other loans and discounts.....do....	770	786	999	969	966	982
Life insurance (Institute of Life Insurance):						
Assets, total, all U. S. life insurance companies						
mil. of dol..	95,844	96,316	100,224	100,597	101,043	.....
Bonds (book value), domestic and foreign, total.....do....	49,056	49,324	51,005	51,122	51,237	.....
U. S. Government.....do....	7,519	7,588	7,233	7,135	6,950	.....
State, county, municipal (U. S.).....do....	2,234	2,244	2,352	2,362	2,375	.....
Public utility (U. S.).....do....	14,005	14,030	14,504	14,553	14,602	.....
Railroad (U. S.).....do....	3,842	3,838	3,845	3,845	3,846	.....
Industrial and miscellaneous (U. S.).....do....	18,808	18,951	20,222	20,368	20,594	.....
Stocks (book value), domestic and foreign, total.....do....	2,909	2,921	3,021	3,028	3,007	.....
Preferred (U. S.).....do....	1,636	1,632	1,630	1,626	1,626	.....
Common (U. S.).....do....	1,261	1,273	1,370	1,381	1,357	.....
Mortgage loans, total.....do....	32,994	33,279	34,859	34,986	35,230	.....
Nonfarm.....do....	30,524	30,810	32,274	32,396	32,640	.....
Real estate.....do....	2,829	2,841	3,085	3,113	3,134	.....
Policy loans and premium notes.....do....	3,505	3,523	3,802	3,833	3,863	.....
Cash.....do....	1,273	1,141	1,112	1,126	1,264	.....
Other assets.....do....	3,278	3,287	3,340	3,389	3,308	.....
Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries, estimated						
total.....mil. of dol..	590.9	595.9	587.1	525.2	681.2	.....
Death benefits.....do....	209.0	236.9	248.8	222.4	255.4	.....
Matured endowments.....do....	63.7	66.5	64.0	57.8	67.2	.....
Disability payments.....do....	8.9	10.9	10.2	9.2	8.8	.....
Annuity payments.....do....	38.1	61.5	47.6	44.8	40.5	.....
Surrender values.....do....	94.9	98.0	118.3	101.7	119.1	.....
Policy dividends.....do....	176.3	122.1	98.2	89.3	190.4	.....
Bonds:						
Average price of all listed bonds (N.Y.S.E.) 2/....dollars..	91.59	93.33	89.67	92.67	94.85	95.38
Domestic.....do....	91.91	93.69	89.89	92.93	95.12	95.63
Foreign.....do....	71.94	73.00	75.34	75.27	77.59	78.74
Value, issues listed on New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value, all issues 2/.....mil. of dol..	99,022	100,951	99,015	102,487	106,072	106,780
Domestic.....do....	97,358	99,253	97,093	100,524	103,996	104,682
Foreign.....do....	1,159	1,165	1,276	1,236	1,329	1,339
Face value, all issues.....do....	108,109	108,165	110,426	110,598	111,830	111,951
Domestic.....do....	105,929	105,933	108,010	108,173	109,333	109,464
Foreign.....do....	1,611	1,596	1,693	1,642	1,713	1,701
Stocks:						
Cash dividend payments publicly reported:						
Total dividend payments.....do....	2,217.4	801.5	738.2	325.0	2,131.9	793.5
Finance.....do....	267.7	168.5	138.8	75.6	224.7	172.6
Manufacturing.....do....	1,372.9	268.9	263.5	134.6	1,375.2	261.1
Mining.....do....	217.0	8.5	8.0	2.4	172.9	8.6
Public utilities:						
Communications.....do....	45.3	141.3	141.1	1.3	45.9	142.1
Electric and gas.....do....	130.3	90.7	92.9	85.2	145.4	85.3
Railroad.....do....	91.5	37.8	22.1	4.3	81.6	28.6
Trade.....do....	55.8	77.3	64.1	14.1	55.6	85.3
Miscellaneous.....do....	36.9	8.5	7.7	7.5	34.6	9.9
Shares listed on New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value, all listed shares.....do....	219,176	211,997	196,675	200,919	195,570	204,969
Number of shares listed.....millions..	4,462	4,489	4,747	4,781	4,804	4,813
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and whole kip.....thous. of skins..	722	872	786	786	785	.....
Cattle hide and side kip.....thous. of hides and kips..	1,993	2,254	2,316	r2,060	1,955	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	1,699	2,064	2,095	1,600	1,659	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	1,784	2,065	2,041	r1,925	1,737	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	7,336	7,282	6,519	5,780	5,279	4,854
Steel forgings (for sale):						
Orders, unfilled, total.....thous. of short tons..	537.9	536.9	400.6	r364.4	343.2	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	129.6	147.7	125.6	r104.8	98.9	.....
Drop and upset.....do....	96.3	113.0	93.6	r79.3	73.5	.....
Press and open hammer.....do....	33.3	34.7	31.9	r25.4	25.4	.....
Aluminum shipments:						
Mill products and pig and ingot (net).....mil. of lb..	r280.9	330.4	318.6	r280.1	292.4	.....
Mill products, total.....do....	r194.4	234.8	230.9	r186.5	177.9	.....
Plate and sheet.....do....	99.9	126.0	121.7	r95.3	90.0	.....
Castings.....do....	67.0	73.0	64.1	58.9	53.1	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by--wholesale prices, 44.1; consumer prices, 48.9. 2/ Includes bonds of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development not shown separately.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1956	1957				1958
	December	January	October	November	December	January
METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Continued						
Oil burners:						
Shipments.....number..	38,729	45,933	70,999	44,613	29,549	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do...	50,329	54,460	42,639	41,298	39,054	.....
Stoves and ranges, domestic cooking, excluding electrical:						
Shipments, total.....number..	134,878	146,360	188,661	146,777	126,521	.....
Coal and wood.....do...	4,387	4,178	6,227	3,328	2,350	.....
Gas (including bungalow and combination).....do...	125,139	136,248	175,627	137,166	119,189	.....
Kerosene, gasoline, and fuel oil.....do...	5,352	5,934	6,807	6,283	4,982	.....
Stoves, domestic heating, shipments, total.....do...	91,540	89,855	347,554	165,800	74,534	.....
Coal and wood.....do...	10,537	6,379	49,997	17,055	6,832	.....
Gas.....do...	62,144	56,564	236,857	119,539	55,562	.....
Kerosene, gasoline, and fuel oil.....do...	18,859	26,912	60,500	29,206	12,140	.....
Warm-air furnaces, shipments, total.....do...	76,426	75,731	125,820	91,300	59,444	.....
Gas.....do...	47,479	49,228	82,380	61,884	41,570	.....
Oil.....do...	21,201	23,737	37,628	26,524	16,229	.....
Solid fuel.....do...	2,625	2,766	5,812	2,892	1,645	.....
Water heaters, gas, shipments.....do...	153,198	209,953	230,690	169,261	168,719	.....
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Newsprint, Canada (including Newfoundland):						
Production.....thous. of short tons..	514	559	549	505	r435	498
Shipments from mills.....do...	552	514	544	520	r471	475
Stocks, at mills, end of month.....do...	100	145	184	169	132	156
Newsprint, United States:						
Consumption by publishers.....do...	444	408	465	453	436	386
Production.....do...	139	158	147	140	139	157
Shipments from mills.....do...	138	159	145	143	135	159
Stocks, end of month:						
At mills.....do...	10	9	18	16	19	18
At publishers.....do...	524	551	665	628	595	602
In transit to publishers.....do...	112	113	87	95	80	108
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: 1/						
Consumption.....bales..	630,339	842,452	819,816	656,205	571,287	799,800
Manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day.....thousands..	20,241	20,231	19,753	19,747	19,730	19,606
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do...	18,786	18,725	18,130	18,133	18,144	17,950
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total...mil. of hr..	8,618	r11,620	11,401	8,963	7,951	11,045
Average per working day.....do...	431	r465	456	448	398	442
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do...	8,062	10,790	10,475	8,231	7,309	10,199
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Motor vehicles, factory sales, total.....number..	700,740	719,431	r380,176	r678,598	642,856	.....
Coaches, total.....do...	228	269	233	241	287	.....
Domestic.....do...	103	257	232	206	253	.....
Passenger cars, total.....do...	617,599	628,045	291,064	583,783	555,242	.....
Domestic.....do...	598,394	610,678	282,510	560,141	536,369	.....
Trucks, total.....do...	82,913	91,117	r88,879	r94,574	87,327	.....
Domestic.....do...	66,123	73,208	73,707	78,928	72,030	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for January and October 1957 and January 1958 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.
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SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS