



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

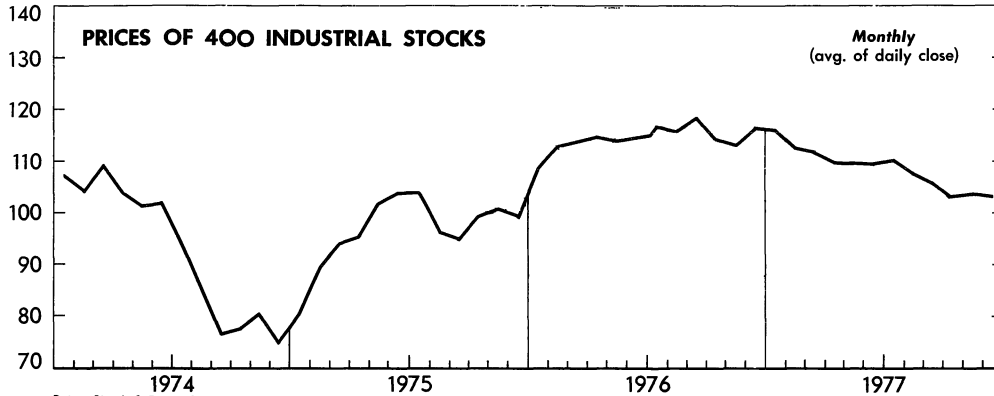


February 3, 1978

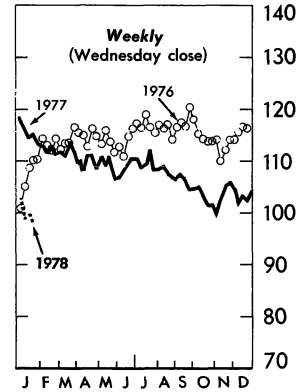
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

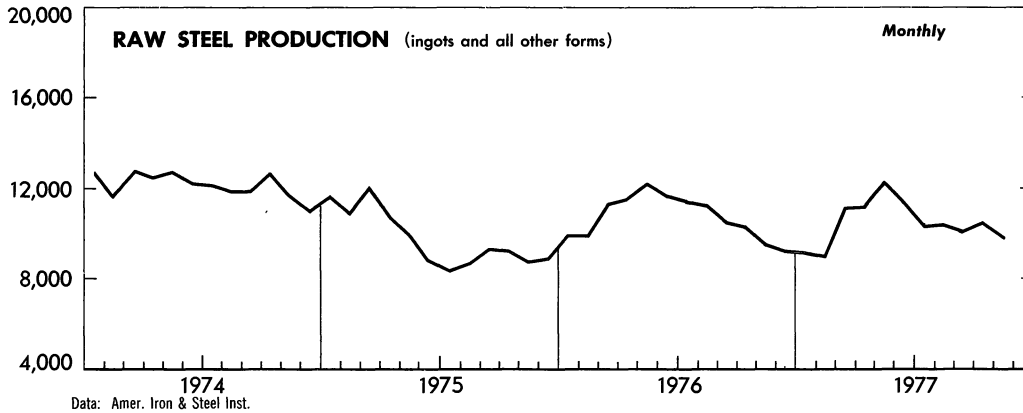
INDEX, 1941-43=10



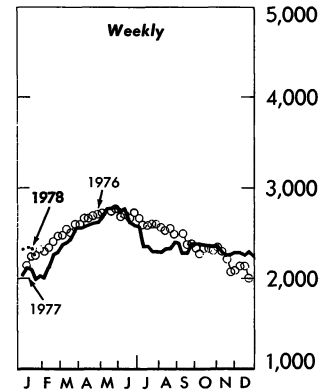
INDEX, 1941-43=10



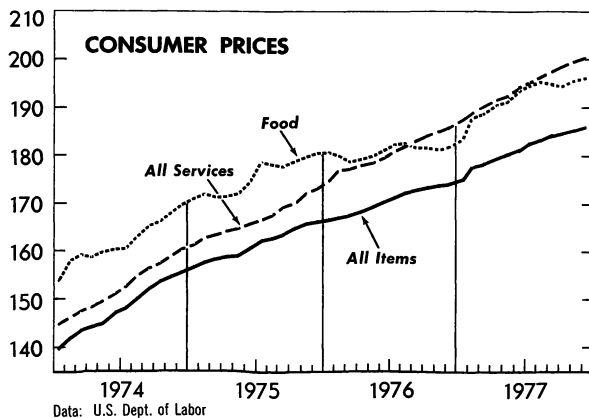
SHORT TONS



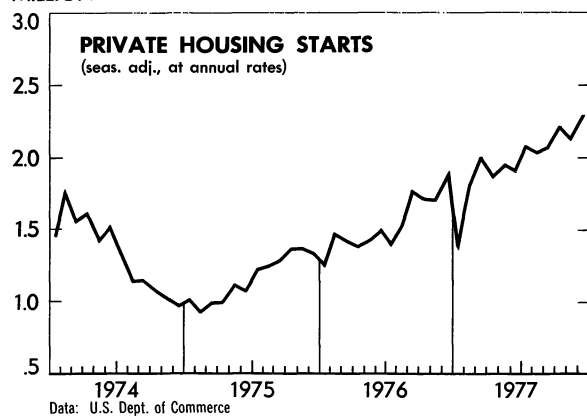
SHORT TONS



1967=100



MILLION



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS updates selected data that are published monthly in the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS.

WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1977		1978			
	Jan. 22	Jan. 29	Jan. 7	Jan. 14	Jan. 21	Jan. 28
WHOLESALE PRICES, 22 COMMODITIES ^{2/}.....1967=100..	208.2	211.6	216.2	218.3	217.8	218.6
9 Foodstuffs.....do.....	203.8	207.3	212.5	215.6	214.9	216.5
13 Raw industrials.....do.....	211.2	214.5	218.8	220.1	219.8	220.0
ALL RETAIL STORES, SALES.....mil. \$..	11,456	11,429	12,260	12,200	11,684	.....
Nondurable goods stores.....do.....	7,838	7,686	8,620	8,468	8,162	.....
INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS, State programs.....thous..	589	519	559	579	491	.....
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT, all programs.....do.....	4,481	4,526	3,777	3,673	.....	.....
State programs (50 States, D.C., and Puerto Rico).....do....	3,675	3,721	3,163	3,088	.....	.....
FAILURES, INDUST. AND COMMERCIAL (Dun & Bradstreet)...number..	147	192	103	130	128	129
FINANCE:						
Currency in circulation ^{3/}.....mil. \$..	92,649	91,799	103,905	103,157	102,136	e101,170
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total ^{3/}.....do....	106,889	108,632	120,227	117,789	117,339	118,405
Member bank reserve balances ^{3/}.....do.....	36,830	36,193	37,939	37,274	39,981	38,190
Excess reserves, estimated ^{3/}.....do.....	-111	424	322	313	425	403
Assets and liabilities of large commercial banks: ^{4/}						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....do.....	110,864	106,384	118,967	117,705	.....	.....
Savings deposits.....do.....	91,298	91,392	92,942	93,149	.....	.....
Loans and investments, gross adjusted, total.....do....	399,670	396,790	436,647	437,921	.....	.....
U.S. Government obligations.....do.....	49,622	48,185	45,964	44,878	.....	.....
Commercial and industrial loans (gross).....do....	115,136	114,422	125,776	124,535	.....	.....
Real estate loans (gross).....do.....	63,908	63,966	74,459	74,774	.....	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) ^{3/}.....percent..	8.43	8.46	8.64	8.72	8.76	8.79
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) ^{4/} ...1941-43=10..	103.85	102.34	93.52	89.74	90.56	89.39
Industrial, 400 stocks.....do.....	115.15	113.34	102.91	98.75	99.73	98.39
PRODUCTION:						
Bituminous coal.....thous. sh. tons..	7,715	8,690	5,775	5,260	4,985	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. kw.-hr..	45,639	43,526	42,144	45,617	45,214	.....
Motor vehicles (passenger cars).....number..	161,977	166,207	161,916	186,887	153,168	132,720
Petroleum (crude) and condensate ^{3/}.....thous. bbl..	8,004	8,004	8,513	8,513	8,513	.....
Steel, raw.....thous. sh. tons..	1,973	2,027	2,324	2,349	2,361	2,221
Rate of capability utilization ^{5/}.....percent..	64.2	66.0	77.2	78.0	78.4	73.8
RAIL FREIGHT, REVENUE TON-MILES.....bil..	12.9	14.0	11.7	13.4	13.1	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday price. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Capability for a full order book based on current availability of raw materials, fuels, supplies, and industry facilities. e/ Estimated.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1976		1977			
	Nov.	Dec.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS: ^{1/}						
Value (not seasonally adjusted):						
Durable goods industries, total.....mil. \$..	51,345	50,798	61,415	62,694	r59,266	57,689
Primary metals.....do.....	7,086	6,752	8,544	8,354	r8,094	7,951
Transportation equipment.....do.....	12,265	11,996	14,181	15,562	r14,255	12,905
Value (seasonally adjusted):						
Durable goods industries, total.....do.....	51,238	55,295	58,608	59,262	r59,154	61,566
Primary metals.....do.....	7,283	7,298	8,440	8,246	r8,323	8,596
Transportation equipment.....do.....	11,616	14,176	13,603	13,824	r13,516	14,067
Supplementary series:						
Household durables.....do.....	3,263	3,319	3,754	3,850	r3,952	4,100
Capital goods industries.....do.....	15,450	16,446	17,511	17,975	r17,870	18,728
Nondefense.....do.....	13,206	13,931	14,943	15,432	r15,224	16,036
Defense.....do.....	2,244	2,515	2,568	2,543	r2,646	2,692
MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS: ^{1/}						
New orders, net (not seasonally adjusted):						
Durable goods industries, total.....do.....	51,386	52,139	61,713	66,022	r61,156	60,574
New orders, net (seasonally adjusted):						
Durable goods industries, total.....do.....	52,235	57,040	r59,048	62,503	r61,984	65,373
Primary metals.....do.....	7,529	7,252	8,692	8,094	r8,901	8,772
Transportation equipment.....do.....	12,102	15,487	13,145	16,141	r14,413	16,557
Supplementary series:						
Household durables.....do.....	3,284	3,314	3,773	4,066	r3,944	4,225
Capital goods industries.....do.....	15,875	17,885	17,819	20,770	r19,453	21,569
Nondefense.....do.....	12,734	13,835	16,189	r16,502	r15,883	17,443
Defense.....do.....	3,141	4,050	1,630	4,268	r3,570	4,326
Unfilled orders, end of month (unadjusted):						
Durable goods industries, total.....do.....	165,040	166,408	175,617	r178,950	r180,840	183,719
Unfilled orders, end of month (seasonally adjusted):						
Durable goods industries, total.....do.....	165,519	167,261	174,682	177,923	r180,750	184,548
Primary metals.....do.....	16,051	16,004	17,887	17,733	r18,312	18,487
Transportation equipment.....do.....	51,445	52,753	54,114	56,431	r57,327	59,816

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for December 1977 are advance estimates.
44102

ITEM	1976		1977			
	Nov.	Dec.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS--Con.						
MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS--Con. 1/ Unfilled orders, end of month (seas. adj.)--Con.						
Supplementary series:						
Household durables.....mil. \$..	2,650	2,644	3,135	3,352	r3,344	3,469
Capital goods industries.....do....	108,623	110,060	112,935	115,730	r117,310	120,351
Nondefense.....do.....	77,925	77,829	83,167	84,236	r84,892	86,299
Defense.....do.....	30,698	32,231	29,768	31,494	r32,418	34,052
COMMODITY PRICES						
CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES:						
Unadjusted indexes:						
All items.....1967=100..	173.8	174.3	184.0	184.5	185.4	186.1
Special group indexes:						
All items less food.....do....	171.6	172.2	180.9	181.6	182.5	183.1
All items less medical care.....do....	172.7	173.2	182.6	183.1	184.1	184.7
Commodities.....do.....	167.7	168.1	176.6	177.0	177.9	178.3
Nondurables.....do.....	171.3	171.7	181.0	181.4	182.4	182.9
Nondurables less food.....do....	161.9	162.3	168.4	169.2	170.1	170.3
Durables.....do.....	158.0	158.4	164.5	165.0	165.5	165.9
Services.....do.....	185.1	185.8	197.7	198.5	199.5	200.5
Services less rent.....do.....	191.8	192.6	205.3	206.2	207.2	208.2
Food.....do.....	181.1	181.7	194.5	194.4	195.6	196.3
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	172.0	170.2	182.1	180.9	181.9	182.1
Dairy products.....do.....	171.7	171.4	175.4	176.2	176.5	176.9
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	174.8	175.5	183.2	184.0	188.7	192.5
Housing.....do.....	180.7	181.	192.7	193.6	194.6	195.7
Shelter.....do.....	182.1	182.4	194.7	195.6	196.9	198.2
Rent.....do.....	147.5	148.3	155.3	156.1	157.0	157.9
Homeownership.....do.....	194.8	195.0	209.1	210.0	211.5	213.0
Fuel and utilities.....do.....	188.2	192.0	205.5	206.8	207.4	207.6
Fuel oil and coal.....do.....	258.0	264.5	285.1	287.2	289.9	291.9
Gas and electricity.....do.....	195.5	201.4	218.0	219.3	219.5	218.9
Household furnishings and operations.....do....	171.7	172.3	178.9	179.5	180.1	181.1
Apparel and upkeep.....do.....	151.9	151.8	156.2	157.2	158.5	158.2
Transportation.....do.....	171.4	171.4	178.4	178.6	178.7	178.8
Private.....do.....	170.6	170.7	177.8	177.9	178.0	178.0
New cars.....do.....	139.7	140.4	141.1	145.7	148.2	150.5
Used cars.....do.....	179.0	178.0	182.5	178.0	175.0	170.7
Public.....do.....	177.6	178.0	184.1	184.4	184.7	185.7
Health and recreation.....do.....	167.3	168.0	176.1	177.1	177.9	178.5
Medical care.....do.....	191.3	192.3	206.3	207.2	208.1	209.3
Personal care.....do.....	164.8	165.2	172.8	173.9	175.5	176.3
Reading and recreation.....do.....	154.1	154.4	159.8	160.6	160.9	161.3
PURCHASING POWER OF THE DOLLAR AS MEASURED BY--						
Consumer prices.....1967=\$1.00..	\$0.575	\$0.574	\$0.543	\$0.542	\$0.539	\$0.537
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN 50 STATES, (F.W. DODGE):						
TOTAL VALUATION.....mil. \$..	7,691	7,196	13,713	10,581	10,391	.....
Index (seasonally adjusted).....1967=100..	210	183	279	244	258	.....
Building, total.....mil. \$..	6,207	5,368	9,135	8,606	8,388	.....
By type of building:						
Nonresidential.....do.....	2,491	2,133	3,617	3,154	3,107	.....
Residential.....do.....	3,716	3,236	5,518	5,452	5,281	.....
Non-building construction.....do.....	1,484	1,828	4,578	1,975	2,003	.....
NEW HOUSING UNITS STARTED:						
Unadjusted:						
Total (private and public).....thous..	128.2	108.1	177.8	r193.2	r156.0	128.6
Privately owned.....do.....	127.1	107.4	177.7	r193.1	r154.9	128.4
One-family structures.....do.....	89.4	71.6	131.6	r135.4	r110.0	86.9
Seasonally adjusted at annual rates:						
Total privately owned.....do.....	1,706	1,889	2,065	r2,203	r2,121	2,295
One-family structures.....do.....	1,236	1,324	1,523	r1,562	r1,543	1,605
NEW PRIVATE HOUSING UNITS AUTHORIZED BY BUILDING PERMITS (14,000 permit-issuing places):						
Seasonally adjusted at annual rates:						
Total.....do.....	1,583	1,532	1,695	1,850	r1,893	1,858
One-family structures.....do.....	1,055	1,047	1,135	1,216	r1,257	1,223
MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS OF MOBILE HOMES:						
Unadjusted.....do.....						
Seasonally adjusted at annual rates.....do....	17.8	15.0	26.8	27.4	22.6	.....
Seasonally adjusted at annual rates.....do....	247	248	300	319	318	.....
New mortgage loans of all savings and loans associations, estimated total.....mil. \$..						
By purpose of loan:						
Home construction.....do.....	1,306	1,421	1,894	r1,801	1,781	.....
Home purchase.....do.....	3,958	4,178	6,240	r5,698	5,558	.....
All other purposes.....do.....	1,262	1,688	1,735	r1,782	1,811	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for December 1977 are advance estimates.
44,102

ITEM	1976		1977			
	Nov.	Dec.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
FINANCE						
LIFE INSURANCE:						
INSTITUTE OF LIFE INSURANCE:						
ASSETS, TOTAL, ALL U.S. COMPANIES.....bil. \$..	317.50	321.55	341.38	343.74	.....	.....
Government securities.....do....	20.66	20.26	22.54	22.79	.....	.....
Corporate securities.....do....	152.11	154.93	167.58	168.73	.....	.....
Mortgage loans, total.....do....	90.79	91.55	94.07	94.68	.....	.....
Nonfarm.....do....	83.50	84.13	85.60	86.12	.....	.....
Real estate.....do....	10.24	10.48	10.93	11.02	.....	.....
Policy loans and premium notes.....do....	25.70	25.83	27.09	27.22	.....	.....
Cash.....do....	1.17	2.00	1.60	1.46	.....	.....
Other assets.....do....	16.82	16.50	17.57	17.83	.....	.....
Life Insurance Marketing and Research Association:						
Insurance written (new paid-for insurance):						
Value, estimated total.....mil. \$..	28,001	39,151	33,217	29,396	30,391	.....
Ordinary (incl. mass-marketed ord.).....do....	18,716	22,319	19,689	20,750	21,322	.....
Group.....do....	8,779	16,355	13,020	8,088	8,549	.....
Industrial.....do....	506	477	508	558	520	.....
SECURITY MARKETS:						
BONDS:						
Domestic corporate (Moody's).....percent..	8.66	8.47	8.31	8.42	8.48	8.54
By ratings:						
Aaa.....do....	8.25	7.98	7.92	8.04	8.08	8.19
Aa.....do....	8.46	8.24	8.15	8.26	8.34	8.40
A.....do....	8.69	8.53	8.37	8.48	8.56	8.57
Baa.....do....	9.23	9.12	8.80	8.89	8.95	8.99
By group						
Industrials.....do....	8.54	8.33	8.19	8.27	8.36	8.42
Public utilities.....do....	8.77	8.61	8.43	8.56	8.61	8.65
Railroads.....do....	8.48	8.39	8.03	8.07	8.10	8.10

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