



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

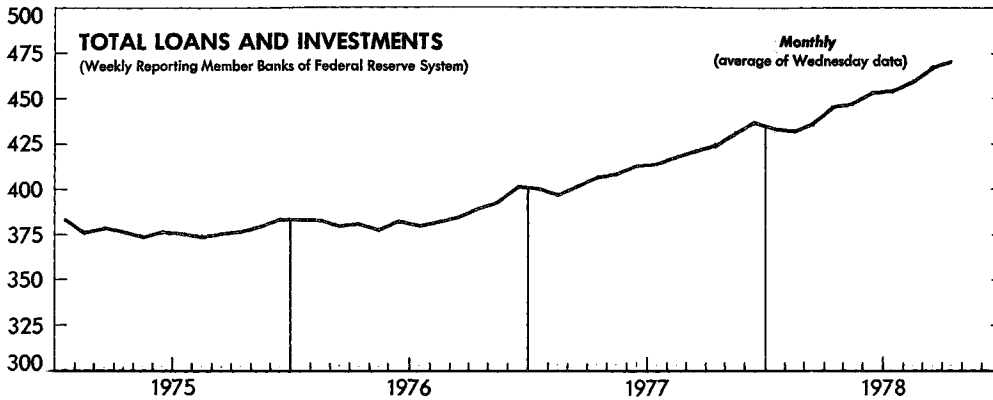


December 8, 1978

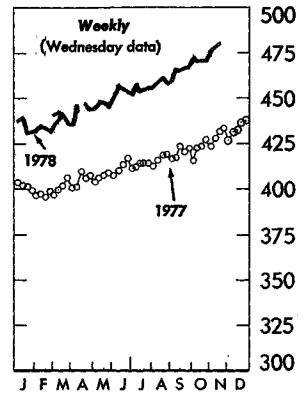
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

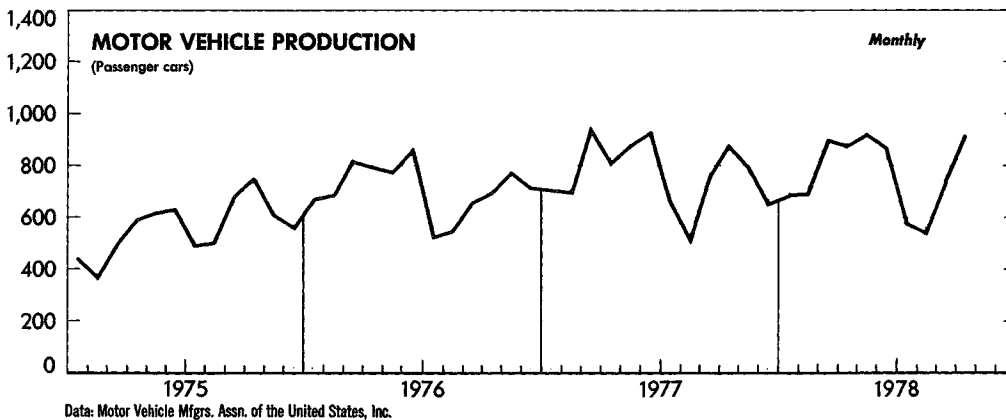
BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



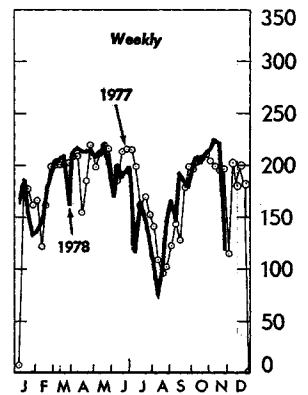
BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



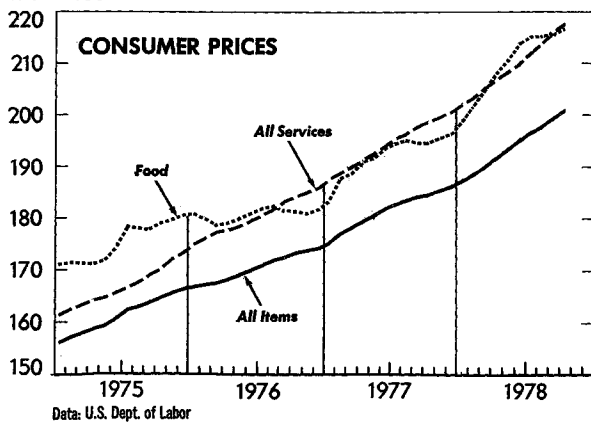
THOUSANDS



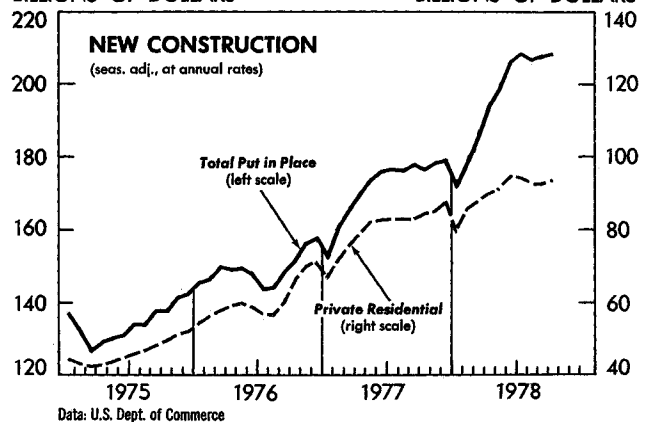
THOUSANDS



1967=100



BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



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

WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1977		1978			
	Nov. 26	Dec. 3	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25	Dec. 2
SPOT MARKET PRICES, 22 COMMODITIES ^{2/}.....1967=100..	207.3	209.4	255.3	252.0	251.1	250.4
9 Foodstuffs.....do....	212.6	211.5	250.4	246.7	247.9	248.2
13 Raw industrials.....do....	203.5	207.9	258.6	255.5	253.3	251.8
INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS, State programs.....thous..	342	431	286	345	350	.....
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT, all programs.....do....	3,098	3,029	2,058	1,973	.....	.....
State programs (50 States, D.C., and Puerto Rico).....do....	2,486	2,442	1,913	1,843	.....	.....
FAILURES, INDUST. AND COMMERCIAL (Dun & Bradstreet).....number..	120	116	177	101	125	111
FINANCE:						
Currency in circulation ^{3/}.....mil. \$..	101,034	101,533	109,828	110,775	111,242	e111,882
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total ^{3/}.....do....	110,086	111,457	129,087	127,051	130,439	130,748
Member bank reserve balances ^{3/}.....do....	35,856	35,938	37,999	38,030	41,362	41,439
Excess reserves, estimated ^{3/}.....do....	-11	438	397	267	55	87
Assets and liabilities of large commercial banks: ^{4/}						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....do....	109,618	113,231	116,067	119,129	.....	.....
Savings deposits.....do....	92,549	92,276	90,945	90,519	.....	.....
Loans and investments, gross adjusted, total.....do....	427,009	431,492	478,330	480,788	.....	.....
U.S. Government obligations.....do....	45,522	45,659	41,330	42,426	.....	.....
Commercial and industrial loans (gross).....do....	123,049	123,573	140,306	140,753	.....	.....
Real estate loans (gross).....do....	73,287	73,444	87,801	88,377	.....	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) ^{3/}.....percent..	8.48	8.47	9.42	9.40	9.38	9.39
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) ^{4/}.....1941-43=10..	96.49	94.83	94.45	92.71	95.48	93.75
Industrial, 400 stocks.....do....	106.10	104.19	105.05	102.94	106.04	104.01
PRODUCTION:						
Bituminous coal.....thous. sh. tons..	13,850	14,750	16,750	16,020	14,020	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. kw.-hr..	38,561	40,825	40,259	41,803	40,718	.....
Motor vehicles (passenger cars).....number..	114,888	202,346	225,313	222,305	116,769	.....
Petroleum (crude) and condensate ^{3/}.....thous. bbl..	8,455	8,538	8,804	8,804	8,804	.....
Steel, raw.....thous. sh. tons..	2,264	2,287	2,733	2,723	2,678	2,700
Rate of capability utilization ^{5/}.....percent..	74.6	75.4	89.8	89.5	88.0	88.7
RAIL FREIGHT, REVENUE TON-MILES.....bil..	14.2	16.9	19.2	18.8	15.7	.....

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	1977		1978			
	Sept.	Oct.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
COMMODITY PRICES						
CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES:						
ALL ITEMS, WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS, REVISED (CPI-W).....1967=100..	184.0	184.5	196.7	197.7	199.1	200.7
ALL ITEMS, ALL URBAN CONSUMERS (CPI-U) ^{1/}.....do....	184.0	184.5	196.7	197.8	199.3	200.9
Special group indexes:						
All items less food.....do....	180.9	181.6	192.0	193.3	195.1	196.7
All items less medical care.....do....	182.6	183.1	195.3	196.3	197.9	199.4
Commodities.....do....	176.6	177.0	188.6	189.3	190.5	191.8
Nondurables.....do....	181.0	181.4	193.6	194.4	195.4	196.6
Nondurables less food.....do....	168.4	169.2	174.1	175.4	177.1	178.1
Durables.....do....	164.5	165.0	175.3	175.9	177.2	178.8
Commodities less food.....do....	166.7	167.4	175.4	176.3	177.8	179.1
Services.....do....	197.7	198.5	211.7	213.4	215.6	217.6
Services less rent.....do....	205.3	206.2	220.4	222.2	224.6	226.7
Food.....do....	194.5	194.4	215.0	215.4	215.6	216.8
Food at home.....do....	192.2	191.7	214.7	214.5	214.1	215.4
Housing.....do....	189.5	190.4	2/203.8	205.2	207.5	209.5
Shelter.....do....	194.7	195.6	211.3	213.3	216.2	218.6
Rent.....do....	155.3	156.1	3/164.2	165.1	166.4	167.4
Homeownership.....do....	209.1	210.0	228.3	230.6	234.2	237.0
Fuel and utilities.....do....	205.5	206.8	4/218.0	218.1	218.8	220.1
Fuel oil and coal.....do....	285.1	287.2	294.5	294.2	295.7	300.1
Gas and electricity.....do....	218.0	219.3	5/237.2	236.9	237.9	240.0
Household furnishings and operations.....do....	169.1	169.6	2/178.1	178.9	180.5	181.9
Apparel and upkeep.....do....	156.2	157.2	158.0	159.6	161.9	163.3
Transportation.....do....	178.4	178.6	187.2	188.1	188.7	189.7
Private.....do....	177.8	177.9	186.8	187.7	188.3	189.4
New cars.....do....	141.1	145.7	153.9	153.8	153.5	155.5
Used cars.....do....	182.5	178.0	195.9	196.7	195.9	195.4
Public.....do....	184.1	184.4	187.7	187.6	188.2	189.3
Medical care.....do....	206.3	207.2	219.4	221.4	222.6	224.7
PURCHASING POWER OF THE DOLLAR AS MEASURED BY--						
Consumer prices.....1967=\$1.00..	\$0.543	\$0.542	\$0.508	\$0.506	\$0.502	\$0.498

1/ Beginning Jan. 1978, data are for consumer price index all urban consumers. 2/ Includes TV and sound equipment and repairs formerly in "Health and recreation." 3/ Residential. 4/ Includes additional items not previously priced. 5/ Includes bottled gas.

ITEM	1977		1978			
	Sept.	Oct.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
NEW CONSTRUCTION PUT IN PLACE (UNADJ.), TOTAL.....mil. \$..	16,842	16,487	19,010	r19,709	r19,642	19,469
Private, total.....do....	12,922	12,823	14,572	r14,846	r14,817	14,832
Residential (incl. farm).....do....	7,989	7,787	8,989	r9,069	r8,878	8,632
New housing units.....do....	6,571	6,573	7,382	r7,543	r7,433	7,269
Nonresidential buildings, total 1/.....do....	2,745	2,770	3,207	r3,359	r3,437	3,551
Industrial.....do....	711	719	950	r1,057	r1,114	1,112
Commercial.....do....	1,469	1,496	1,661	r1,697	r1,720	1,841
Public, total.....do....	3,920	3,664	4,439	r4,863	r4,825	4,637
NEW CONSTRUCTION PUT IN PLACE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AT ANNUAL RATES), TOTAL.....bil. \$..	177.8	176.7	208.3	r206.4	r207.7	208.0
Private, total.....do....	138.3	139.2	159.9	r158.0	r159.4	160.2
Residential (incl. farm).....do....	83.0	84.2	94.0	r92.5	r92.5	92.8
New housing units.....do....	67.6	69.3	77.7	r77.1	r76.8	76.2
Nonresidential buildings, total 1/.....do....	30.5	30.3	37.7	r37.6	r38.2	38.6
Industrial.....do....	8.1	8.2	11.2	r12.0	r12.6	12.7
Commercial.....do....	16.2	15.9	r19.5	r18.8	r18.9	19.3
Public, total.....do....	39.4	37.4	48.4	r48.4	r48.3	47.8
CONSTRUCTION COST INDEXES:						
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COMPOSITE..... 1972=100..	158.8	161.0	173.6	175.4	175.7	178.3
LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND EARNINGS						
LABOR TURNOVER IN MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS:						
Unadjusted for seasonal variation:						
Accession rate, total.....mo. rate per 100 employees..	4.6	3.8	4.4	5.3	4.8	4.3
New hires.....do....	3.5	2.9	3.2	4.1	r3.9	3.5
Separation rate, total.....do....	4.8	3.8	4.1	5.2	4.8	4.1
Quit.....do....	2.8	1.9	2.1	3.4	3.0	2.3
Layoff.....do....	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.8	0.9
Seasonally adjusted:						
Accession rate, total.....do....	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.4
New hires.....do....	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.8	r3.1	3.4
Separation rate, total.....do....	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.0
Quit.....do....	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.3
WORK STOPPAGES:						
Number of stoppages:						
Beginning in month.....number..	485	408	463	435	494	449
Workers involved:						
Beginning in month.....thous..	152	157	211	176	160	127
Days idle during month.....do....	3,085	3,347	2,995	4,141	4,421	2,261
FOREIGN TRADE						
EXPORTS (MDSE.), INCL. REEXPORTS, TOTAL.....mil. \$..	10,371.1	9,557.4	10,944.7	11,621.8	12,714.4	13,157.4
Excl. Department of Defense Shipments.....do....	10,367.5	9,554.8	10,934.0	11,613.9	12,713.1	13,153.6
Seasonally adjusted.....do....	11,038.6	9,357.4	11,792.5	12,469.3	13,428.9	13,010.5
By commodity groups and principal commodities:						
Food and live animals.....do....	1,247.6	987.5	1,540.6	1,716.2	1,645.7	1,597.9
Beverages and tobacco.....do....	201.8	67.3	161.6	213.3	176.9	251.3
Crude materials, inedible, exc. fuels.....do....	822.7	1,042.7	992.5	1,083.4	1,111.9	1,470.4
Mineral fuels, lubricants, etc.....do....	401.8	367.0	321.7	335.4	348.0	422.1
Oils and fats, animal and vegetable.....do....	105.7	98.1	130.7	120.9	156.3	113.9
Chemicals.....do....	1,064.9	737.2	1,077.2	1,149.1	1,197.9	1,085.0
Manufactured goods.....do....	1,014.3	742.5	939.5	1,024.7	1,132.5	1,120.8
Machinery and transport equipment, total.....do....	4,303.4	4,157.9	4,486.8	4,599.8	5,142.1	5,586.4
GENERAL IMPORTS, TOTAL.....do....	12,452.4	12,497.5	14,703.9	14,024.0	14,416.9	15,118.3
Seasonally adjusted.....do....	12,941.6	12,586.9	14,779.3	14,090.2	15,120.0	15,138.0
By commodity groups and principal commodities:						
Food and live animals.....do....	873.7	812.9	1,126.1	924.0	1,048.9	1,152.2
Beverages and tobacco.....do....	182.9	137.8	177.4	170.2	168.2	211.5
Crude materials, inedible, exc. fuels.....do....	744.6	737.4	788.0	817.4	829.3	831.2
Mineral fuels, lubricants, etc.....do....	3,720.5	3,634.9	3,380.1	3,677.1	3,698.9	3,491.6
Oils and fats, animal and vegetable.....do....	41.7	29.6	49.4	43.0	30.2	40.9
Chemicals.....do....	436.4	349.1	546.9	514.9	537.9	541.4
Manufactured goods.....do....	1,888.7	1,869.3	2,418.3	2,218.6	2,215.4	2,344.5
Machinery and transport equipment.....do....	2,995.9	3,301.5	4,108.2	3,578.5	3,832.0	4,294.6
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
STEEL PRODUCTS, NET SHIPMENTS:						
Total (all grades).....thous. short tons..	7,662	7,400	7,608	8,293	8,252	.....
By products:						
Semifinished products.....do....	357	359	393	457	491	.....
Structural shapes (heavy), steel piling.....do....	362	334	393	426	419	.....
Plates.....do....	587	581	694	697	683	.....
Rails and accessories.....do....	169	155	111	123	140	.....
Bars and tool steel, total.....do....	1,297	1,297	1,272	1,463	1,465	.....
Bars:						
Hot rolled (incl. light shapes).....do....	775	791	661	845	877	.....
Reinforcing.....do....	369	343	359	436	407	.....
Pipe and tubing.....do....	654	657	643	698	683	.....
Wire and wire products.....do....	203	201	175	211	204	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Includes additions and alterations.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1977		1978			
	Sept.	Oct.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
METALS AND MANUFACTURERS--Con.						
STEEL PRODUCTS, NET SHIPMENTS--Con.						
By product--Con.						
Tin mill products.....thous. short tons..	539	453	472	498	536	.....
Sheets and strip (incl. electrical), total.....do....	3,493	3,363	3,455	3,720	3,630	.....
Sheets: Hot rolled.....do.....	1,164	1,156	1,176	1,316	1,288	.....
Cold rolled.....do.....	1,480	1,407	1,430	1,512	1,473	.....
By market:						
Service centers and distributors.....do....	1,279	1,179	1,332	1,440	1,387	.....
Construction, including maintenance.....do....	646	603	806	849	777	.....
Contractors' products.....do.....	397	370	298	325	311	.....
Automotive.....do.....	1,815	1,805	1,647	1,819	1,899	.....
Rail transportation.....do.....	295	258	251	307	306	.....
Machinery, industrial equipment, and tools.....do....	465	492	447	521	529	.....
Containers, packaging, shipping materials.....do....	562	481	536	528	551	.....
Others.....do.....	2,203	2,212	2,291	2,505	2,491	.....
MACHINE TOOLS:						
Metal cutting type tools:						
Orders, new (net), total.....mil. \$..	198.50	160.10	249.30	r274.65	253.00	p334.05
Domestic.....do.....	174.40	150.55	231.20	r255.10	234.40	p312.00
Shipments, total.....do.....	166.50	141.55	137.75	r161.70	198.60	p195.60
Domestic.....do.....	147.55	131.40	123.55	r142.90	172.40	p173.30
Order backlog, end of month.....do....	1,669.3	1,687.8	2,427.5	r2,540.5	2,594.9	p2,733.3
Metal forming type tools:						
Orders, new (net), total.....do....	53.65	79.80	72.25	r100.15	81.70	p79.95
Domestic.....do.....	50.80	74.85	66.95	r93.95	75.35	p74.55
Shipments, total.....do.....	44.95	51.55	70.65	r53.70	65.15	p71.75
Domestic.....do.....	41.10	47.15	64.40	r49.00	57.55	p65.45
Order backlog, end of month.....do....	328.9	357.2	455.1	r501.5	518.0	p526.3

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary

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