WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

May 18, 1979

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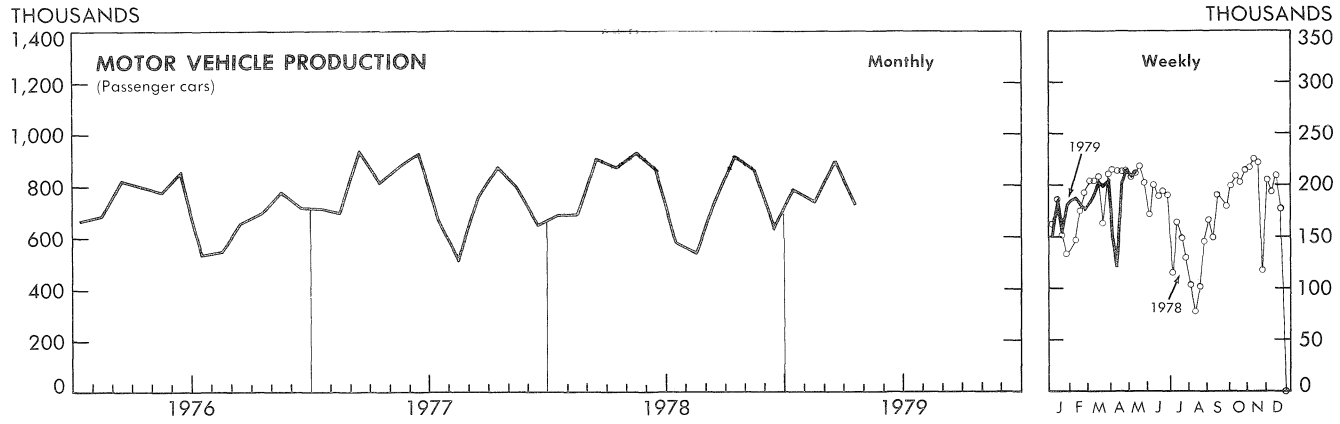
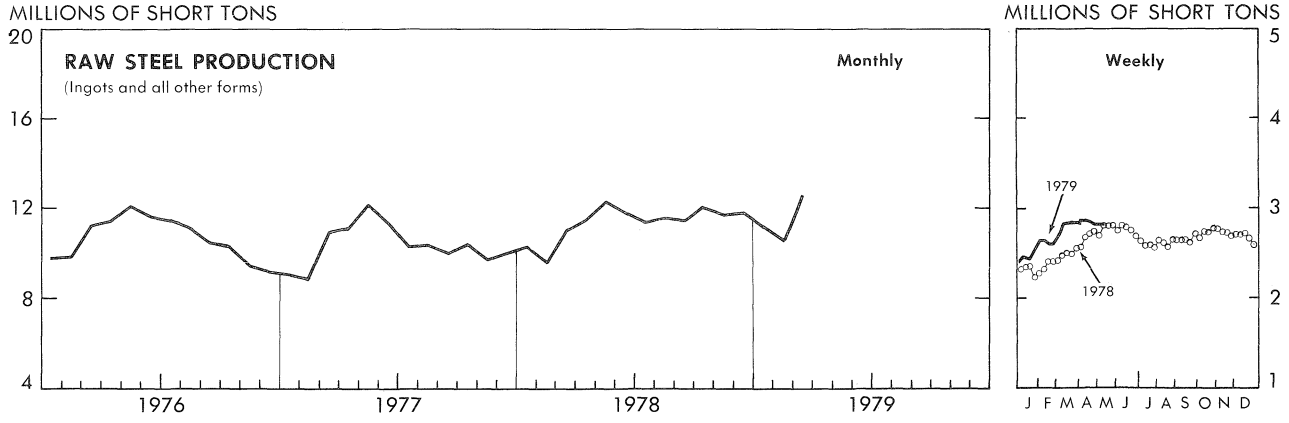
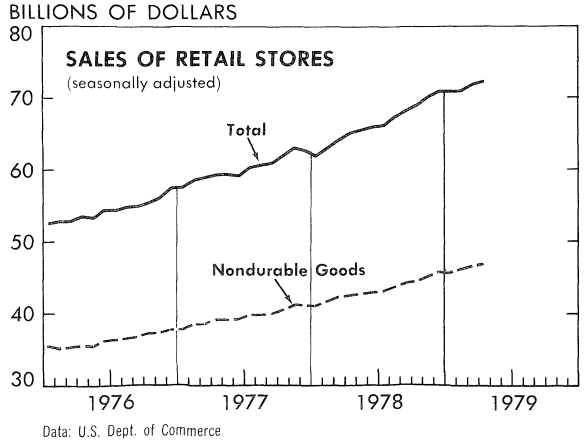
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS



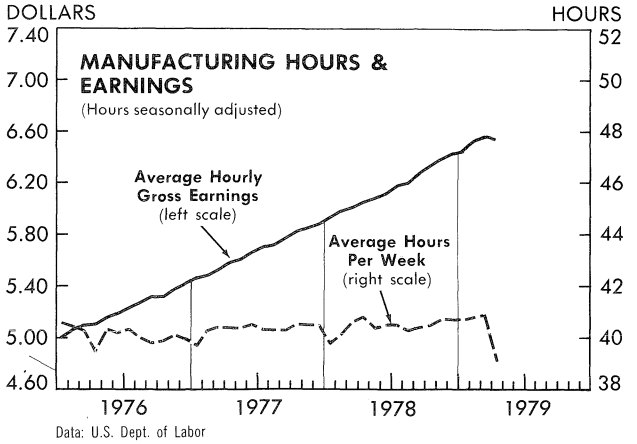
Data: Motor Vehicle Mfgrs. Assn. of the United States, Inc.



Data: Amer. Iron & Steel Inst.



Data: U.S. Dept. of Commerce



Data: U.S. Dept. of Labor

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

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Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1978		1979			
	May 6	May 13	Apr. 21	Apr. 28	May 5	May 12
SPOT MARKET PRICES, 22 COMODITIES 2/.....1967=100..	225.0	226.0	275.9	276.9	277.4	276.3
9 Foodstuffs.....do....	237.9	240.5	250.7	252.8	253.5	255.0
13 Raw industrials.....do....	216.5	216.3	294.6	294.7	295.1	291.9
INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS, State programs.....thous..	292	269	341	304	308	.....
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT, all programs.....do....	2,423	2,430	2,621	2,492	.....	.....
State programs (50 States, D.C., and Puerto Rico).....do....	2,151	2,094	2,451	2,322	.....	.....
FAILURES, INDUST. AND COMMERCIAL (Dun & Bradstreet)...number..	108	151	180	205	201	133
FINANCE:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. $..	103,401	104,144	113,976	113,492	113,237	e113,862
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	121,240	122,933	128,433	129,448	129,499	128,368
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	37,923	37,183	41,351	40,872	41,828	40,564
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	315	183	211	156	174	25
Assets and liabilities of large commercial banks: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....do....	112,127	109,715	103,739	103,490	.....	.....
Savings deposits.....do....	93,202	93,247	77,115	76,693	.....	.....
Loans and investments, gross adjusted, total.....do....	444,668	445,001	460,846	456,322	.....	.....
U.S. Government obligations.....do....	44,335	44,265	39,958	37,567	.....	.....
Commercial and industrial loans (gross).....do....	131,654	132,147	138,845	138,877	.....	.....
Real estate loans (gross).....do....	77,936	78,241	84,161	84,289	.....	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	8.95	8.99	9.82	9.86	9.92	9.96
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	96.26	95.92	101.70	102.50	101.72	99.46
Industrial, 400 stocks.....do....	106.27	105.96	113.46	114.57	113.82	111.09
PRODUCTION:						
Bituminous coal.....thous. sh. tons..	15,580	15,310	15,780	15,560	15,470	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. kw.-hr..	37,792	38,609	39,816	39,645	39,522	.....
Motor vehicles (passenger cars).....number..	207,865	212,100	202,184	211,502	208,793	213,643
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. bbl..	8,839	8,839	8,618	8,618	8,633	.....
Steel, raw.....thous. sh. tons..	2,691	2,806	2,844	2,810	2,814	2,809
Rate of capability utilization 5/.....percent..	88.5	92.3	93.4	92.2	92.4	92.2
RAIL FREIGHT, REVENUE TON-MILES.....bil..	17.8	18.0	17.9	18.5	18.1	.....

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	1978		1979			
	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb. r/	Mar. r/	Apr.
DOMESTIC TRADE						
RETAIL TRADE, ALL RETAIL STORES:						
ESTIMATED SALES (UNADJUSTED), TOTAL 1/.....mil. $..	64,764	63,838	61,878	60,653	71,998	71,495
Durable goods stores.....do....	22,777	23,165	21,100	21,131	25,972	26,409
Bldg. materials, hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealers.....do....	3,170	3,665	2,873	2,708	3,730	4,248
Automotive dealers.....do....	14,560	14,382	12,805	13,100	16,123	15,996
Furn., home furn. and equip.....do....	2,902	2,901	2,959	2,882	3,317	3,274
Nondurable goods stores.....do....	41,987	40,673	40,778	39,522	46,026	45,086
General merch. group stores.....do....	7,366	7,472	5,946	5,925	7,932	8,128
Department stores.....do....	5,894	6,010	4,747	4,700	6,303	6,473
Food stores.....do....	14,529	13,865	14,944	14,215	16,212	15,084
Grocery stores.....do....	13,482	12,862	13,769	13,024	14,923	13,789
Gasoline service stations.....do....	4,906	4,889	5,059	4,898	5,435	5,499
Apparel and accessory stores.....do....	2,940	2,816	2,689	2,416	3,143	3,366
Eating and drinking places.....do....	5,579	5,719	5,389	5,339	6,311	6,361
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	2,070	1,940	2,139	2,058	2,214	2,204
ESTIMATED SALES (SEAS. ADJ.), TOTAL 1/.....do....	64,075	65,146	70,855	71,122	71,852	72,197
Durable goods stores.....do....	21,813	22,617	25,250	25,035	25,356	25,253
Bldg. mat., hdwre, garden supply, etc. dealers...do....	3,397	3,609	3,956	3,676	4,043	4,069
Automotive dealers.....do....	13,132	13,537	15,011	14,932	14,893	14,648
Furn., home furn. and equip.....do....	2,924	3,061	3,337	3,333	3,358	3,414
Nondurable goods stores.....do....	42,262	42,529	45,605	46,087	46,496	46,944
General merch. group stores.....do....	7,952	8,048	8,402	8,378	8,680	8,599
Department stores.....do....	6,420	6,462	6,791	6,734	6,942	6,864
Food stores.....do....	14,177	14,298	15,659	15,639	15,609	15,832
Grocery stores.....do....	13,153	13,273	14,358	14,357	14,335	14,530
Gasoline service stations.....do....	4,996	4,994	5,353	5,566	5,512	5,606
Appparel and accessory stores.....do....	2,983	3,064	3,273	3,214	3,428	3,390
Eating and drinking places.....do....	5,787	5,794	6,041	6,274	6,499	6,504
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	2,050	2,042	2,278	2,257	2,225	2,270

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for April 1979 are advance estimates.

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ITEM	1978		1979			
	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS						
LABOR FORCE, total, persons 16 years of age and over not seasonally adjusted.....thous..	100,565	100,984	102,961	103,343	103,755	103,318
Civilian labor force.....do....	98,443	98,866	100,867	101,249	101,665	101,236
Employed, total.....do....	91,964	93,180	94,436	94,765	95,501	95,675
Agriculture.....do....	2,913	3,151	2,762	2,796	2,925	3,074
Nonagricultural industries.....do....	89,051	90,029	91,673	91,969	92,576	92,601
Unemployed.....do....	6,479	5,685	6,431	6,484	6,165	5,561
Civilian labor force seasonally adjusted.....do....	99,435	99,767	102,183	102,527	102,714	102,111
Employed, total.....do....	93,282	93,704	96,300	96,647	96,842	96,174
Agriculture.....do....	3,334	3,274	3,232	3,311	3,343	3,186
Nonagricultural industries.....do....	89,948	90,430	93,068	93,335	93,499	92,987
Unemployed.....do....	6,153	6,063	5,883	5,881	5,871	5,937
Long-term,15 weeks and over.....do....	1,488	1,486	1,251	1,260	1,305	1,235
EMPLOYEES ON PAYROLL OF NONAGRIC. ESTAB., SEAS. ADJ.....do....	84,726	85,418	87,524	r87,818	r88,240	p88,312
Private sector.....do....	69,291	69,901	72,063	r72,350	r72,740	p72,776
Nonmanufacturing industries.....do....	49,061	49,619	51,238	r51,455	r51,780	p51,835
Goods-producing.....do....	24,927	25,313	26,111	r26,199	r26,413	p26,397
Mining.....do....	698	867	905	r919	r921	p922
Contract construction.....do....	3,999	4,164	4,381	r4,385	r4,532	p4,534
Manufacturing.....do....	20,230	20,282	20,825	r20,895	r20,960	p20,941
Durable goods.....do....	12,041	12,076	12,562	r12,647	r12,697	p12,682
Nondurable goods.....do....	8,189	8,206	8,263	r8,248	r8,263	p8,259
Service-Producing.....do....	59,799	60,105	61,413	r61,619	r61,827	p61,915
Transportation, communication, elec., gas, etc.....do....	4,817	4,847	4,974	r5,001	r5,024	p4,958
Wholesale and retail trade.....do....	19,169	19,252	19,817	r19,883	r19,949	p19,992
Wholesale trade.....do....	4,854	4,872	5,020	r5,035	r5,056	p5,078
Retail trade.....do....	14,315	14,380	14,797	r14,848	r14,893	p14,914
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....do....	4,605	4,623	4,809	r4,829	r4,842	p4,860
Services.....do....	15,773	15,866	16,352	r16,438	r16,512	p16,569
Government.....do....	15,435	15,517	15,461	r15,468	r15,500	p15,536
Federal.....do....	2,739	2,745	2,755	2,755	r2,754	p2,755
State and local.....do....	12,696	12,772	12,706	r12,713	r12,746	p12,781
Indexes of aggregate weekly employee-hours (prod. workers):						
Private nonagric. payrolls, total, (seas. adj.)...1967=100..	119.1	120.4	122.6	r123.2	r124.7	p122.6
Goods-producing.....do....	103.6	106.0	108.7	r109.1	r111.1	p106.4
Mining.....do....	111.3	144.2	149.2	r149.3	r150.6	p148.4
Contract construction.....do....	111.5	118.8	120.6	r122.4	r131.8	p125.3
Manufacturing.....do....	102.0	102.5	r105.2	r105.4	r106.0	p101.6
Durable goods.....do....	103.9	104.2	108.8	r109.6	r110.2	p104.2
Service-producing.....do....	129.8	130.5	132.3	r132.9	r134.1	p133.8
Transportation, communication, electricity, gas...do....	109.1	108.7	111.2	r111.2	r112.4	p108.5
Wholesale and retail trade.....do....	125.9	126.4	127.6	r128.4	r129.7	p129.9
Retail trade.....do....	126.1	126.6	127.3	r128.2	r129.4	p129.9
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....do....	135.4	137.5	141.7	142.0	r142.4	p143.4
Services.....do....	143.3	144.1	145.8	r146.6	r147.8	p148.2
Indexes of average hourly earnings, seasonally adjusted:						
Private nonfarm economy (prod. or nonsupervisory workers):						
Current dollars.....do....	208.3	210.3	r222.8	r223.9	r225.3	p226.6
1967 dollars.....do....	109.5	109.6	108.5	r107.8	p107.3	.....
Mining.....do....	222.5	237.1	251.7	r253.3	p255.0	p257.4
Contract construction.....do....	203.0	203.5	213.4	r216.3	r216.8	p218.1
Manufacturing.....do....	211.0	212.2	225.4	227.1	r228.8	p230.9
Transportation, communication, elec., gas, etc.....do....	225.6	228.4	r240.7	r241.6	r243.4	p241.3
Wholesale and retail trade.....do....	201.5	203.5	217.8	r218.1	r219.5	p220.5
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....do....	188.9	192.3	202.3	203.9	r204.3	p206.9
Services.....do....	208.7	210.5	221.7	r222.2	r223.6	p225.5
FINANCE						
SECURITY MARKETS:						
STOCKS						
Prices:						
Dow-Jones average (65 stocks).....	265.75	276.65	283.85	280.06	286.50	294.69
Industrial (30 stocks).....	756.24	794.66	837.39	825.18	847.84	864.96
Public utility (15 stocks).....	105.48	105.85	102.24	103.75	103.85	103.23
Transportation (20 stocks).....	204.50	214.50	216.85	210.41	216.44	231.81
Standard & Poor's Corporation:						
Combined index (500 stocks).....1941-43=10..	88.82	92.71	99.71	98.23	100.11	102.07
Industrial, total (400 stocks).....do....	97.65	102.07	111.15	109.49	111.66	113.95
Capital goods (111 stocks).....do....	93.12	97.86	112.08	110.66	114.50	116.32
Consumer goods (189 stocks).....do....	78.68	82.69	84.42	81.80	82.70	84.03
Utilities (40 stocks).....do....	51.72	52.16	50.33	50.74	50.62	50.09
Transportation (20 stocks).....1970=10..	12.70	13.30	13.46	13.08	13.48	14.18
Railroad (10 stocks).....1941-43=10..	43.61	44.77	44.45	44.92	46.64	49.75
Financial (40 stocks).....1970=10..	10.50	11.20	11.68	11.28	11.63	11.97
New York City banks (6 stocks).....1941-43=10..	38.66	42.04	44.12	41.91	42.54	44.24
Banks outside N.Y.C. (10 stocks).....do....	90.36	97.09	102.32	97.54	99.28	101.93
Property-Casualty Insurance (6 stocks).....do....	101.01	107.52	108.73	108.22	116.11	118.88

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

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	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
FOREIGN TRADE						
EXPORTS (MDSE.), INCL. REEXPORTS, TOTAL.....mil. $..	12,079.4	12,069.7	12,561.3	12,932.5	15,586.7	.....
Excl. Department of Defense Shipments.....do....	12,074.2	12,064.2	12,558.1	12,928.5	15,584.4	.....
Seasonally adjusted.....do....	11,146.5	11,630.4	13,131.8	13,506.8	14,452.0	.....
By commodity groups and principal commodities:						
Food and live animals.....do....	1,465.7	1,472.8	1,313.3	1,314.3	1,581.0	.....
Beverages and tobacco.....do....	213.6	144.3	135.4	171.2	223.2	.....
Crude materials, inedible, exc. fuels.....do....	1,337.5	1,388.6	1,550.4	1,513.5	1,837.5	.....
Mineral fuels, lubricants, etc.....do....	165.2	284.5	350.2	292.0	435.7	.....
Oils and fats, animal and vegetable.....do....	141.5	145.4	145.8	173.2	171.3	.....
Chemicals.....do....	1,031.1	971.3	1,235.6	1,155.6	1,522.3	.....
Manufactured goods.....do....	1,067.6	988.6	1,121.5	1,135.3	1,384.1	.....
Machinery and transport equipment, total.....do....	5,140.1	5,095.1	5,040.1	5,394.3	6,325.1	.....
GENERAL IMPORTS, TOTAL.....do....	14,547.3	14,486.0	15,846.3	13,776.3	15,764.8	.....
Seasonally adjusted.....do....	14,004.1	14,491.5	16,231.1	14,806.3	15,273.3	.....
By commodity groups and principal commodities:						
Food and live animals.....do....	1,257.5	1,161.5	1,278.3	1,102.5	1,242.6	.....
Beverages and tobacco.....do....	174.7	201.5	204.8	156.2	221.9	.....
Crude materials, inedible, exc. fuels.....do....	768.5	712.4	812.7	738.0	859.3	.....
Mineral fuels, lubricants, etc.....do....	3,431.2	3,513.5	4,228.0	3,524.9	3,947.9	.....
Oils and fats, animal and vegetable.....do....	46.0	42.7	89.5	50.6	55.7	.....
Chemicals.....do....	604.2	611.6	532.2	440.5	655.1	.....
Manufactured goods.....do....	2,334.1	2,383.0	2,255.8	2,120.7	2,424.0	.....
Machinery and transport equipment.....do....	4,050.7	4,085.5	4,515.9	3,932.6	4,438.3	.....
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Retail sales, new passenger cars:						
Total, not seasonally adjusted.....thous..	1,078	1,043	784	840	1,116	p987
Domestics.....do....	883	863	645	676	865	764
Imports.....do....	195	180	138	164	251	p223
Total, seasonally adjusted at annual rate.....mil..	11.8	12.3	11.0	11.4	12.6	p11.1
Domestics.....do....	9.8	10.2	9.0	9.1	9.8	8.6
Imports.....do....	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.7	p2.6
Retail inventories, new cars (domestics), end of month:						
Not sesaonally adjusted.....thous..	1,991	2,008	1,885	1,957	1,974	1,914
Seasonally adjusted.....do....	1,866	1,877	1,819	1,851	1,846	1,780
Inventory-sales ratio, new cars (domestics).....ratio..	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.5

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

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